

**LODI CITY COUNCIL  
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION  
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2008**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, October 14, 2008, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

Present: Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Council Member Hitchcock, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Katzakian, and Mayor Mounce

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager King, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Johl

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Receive Presentation on Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Projects

City Manager King briefly introduced the subject matter of Parks and Recreation Capital Projects.

Interim Parks and Recreation / Community Services Director Jim Rodems provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Parks and Recreation capital projects. Specific topics of discussion included Lodi park facts, current projects, priority playground replacement, low priority playgrounds, major capitol projects, Pigs Lake riverbank project, Grape Bowl, Lodi Lake, DeBenedetti/Pixley Parks, project prioritization, and current funding. In addition, estimates and costs were provided for Armory Park, Beckman Park, Blakely Park, Candy Cane Park, Century Park, Emerson Park, English Oaks Park, Grape Bowl, Hale Park, Henry Graves Park, Katzakian Park, Kofu Park, Lawrence Park, Legion Park, Lodi Lake Park, Peterson Park, Salas Park, Softball Complex, Van Buskirk Park, Vinewood Park, Zupo Field, and Parks and Recreation administration.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Rodems confirmed that part-time staff is included in the full-time equivalent number.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Rodems confirmed that the \$9,065 amount does not include administration and is only representative of straight maintenance. Mr. King stated this is an estimated standard number, which gives the City an opportunity to compare with other neighboring agencies.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated that, with respect to community facilities districts, the basic assumption is that we want to maintain the current standard; although, this is the type of number used along with other considerations.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated the primary reason for looking at this subject area is for deferred maintenance purposes; although, coincidentally it may connect to the General Plan as well due to timing.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Rodems concurred that partnerships with community members, such as Geweke and General Mills, will be key as staff continues to look for funding opportunities for parks facilities.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Park Superintendent Steve Dutra stated the proposed improvements to Pigs Lake are a temporary fix. Mr. King stated staff is not aware of any specific

earmarked funds that may be used for this type of a project, but they are continuing to look at grants and other funding sources.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen and Council Member Hitchcock suggested it may be worthwhile to work with federal and state legislative representatives on the issue of repairs to Pigs Lake.

Myrna Wetzel requested that the Grape Bowl Committee supply more information to the public about the needs of the facility.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Rodems stated the current project at Lodi Lake extends from the booth area to the Lake itself.

In response to Mayor Mounce, Mr. Rodems stated staff will continue to look at Community Development Block Grant funds as a possible funding source for improvements as was done with Blakely Park.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Rodems stated Proposition 12 and Proposition 40 funds were utilized for the Lodi Lake project. Mr. King stated both propositions were voter approved state park bonds, are not competitive grants, and certain rules must be followed to obtain funding. Mr. King stated the goal is to get better at grant funding by spending per capita grants in order to be competitive with other grants. He stated identifying the needs is important as a result.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. King stated staff may have been a little bit slow on the capital grants side previously because there may have been a strategy in place for DeBenedetti Park. He stated when the buy-in power eroded over time, restroom improvements were made at Beckman Park and Graves Park instead. Mr. Rodems stated funding from the State was approximately \$514,000.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated the City will likely receive a request to modify the related development agreement, which is not due to DeBenedetti Park itself, but rather because of the housing slow down. A brief discussion ensued regarding the realistic possibility of maintaining the five-acre standard based on the tax base and options to obtain additional funding.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Dutra stated 13 of the 28 parks are controlled with Maxicom and the others are automated in some fashion. Mr. Rodems stated generally pumps that push water over larger areas versus home irrigation systems require more maintenance because of the greater areas they serve and the function of the equipment.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. King stated existing impact fees originally spoke to new parks and development consistent with the original General Plan. He stated after adoption there was a reduction in the impact fee program, which moved park improvements out and the level of construction did not occur. Mr. King stated impact fees were originally based on specific new parks.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King confirmed that the community facilities district is to take care of ongoing maintenance with new development, while impact fees pay for new facilities.

A brief general discussion ensued between the City Council regarding the process associated with narrowing down the list through staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission to those items that are of a greater priority than others and possible criteria for the same.

David Akin, representing the Parks and Recreation Commission, provided an overview of the list

of prioritization, the history of the Commission's consideration of the same at the Commission meeting, and the Commission's direction to staff to further prioritize the list based on general criteria including health and safety, youth and adult recreation areas, and revenue.

In response to Council Member Johnson and Mayor Mounce, Mr. Rodems stated the demographic study may provide valuable data and additional options for improvements.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King confirmed that the Parks and Recreation deferred maintenance needs are a part of the broader deferred maintenance for the City in general and will require a balancing act between delivering services through personnel and capital equipment.

In response to Council Member Katzakian, Mr. King stated full rehabilitation could occur through redevelopment in a project area and other cities have used it for these purposes.

In response to Mayor Mounce, Mr. Rodems stated staff will narrow down the list further for Council based on certain criteria.

In response to Myrna Wetzel, Mr. King stated there is no specific reserve fund for vehicle replacement or capital replacements in general at this time but the goal is to head that way.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

None.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl  
City Clerk